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1. In a report to the Executive Committee of the Liberation Front (OF) of Slovenia, Edvard Kardelj, Yugoslav Foreign Minister, made observations about his trip in late 1950 to the United States.
2. Kardelj reportedly stated that conditions in the United States are different from what the Cominform depicts them to be. Neither a proletariat nor a capitalist state in the European sense exists there, but there is a strong middle class which constitutes the backbone of the nation.
3. In Kardelj's opinion, the evolution of United States' economy has not followed the path outlined by Karl Marx, who claimed that capitalism, where-
ever it may be, leads to an abyss and incompatibility between the capitalists and the proletariat. From personnel observations, Kardelj noted that the workers are highly skilled and are not the exploited victims, living in the misery, slavery and oppression which is usually attributed to capitalism. The Marxist theory is obsolete and not applicable to the system existing in the United States today.
4. Kardelj went on to say that workers in the United States participate actively in labor unions, often share the profits and have a voice in management. In many cases they represent the bulk of the stockholders and, consequently, are the real owners. At one time, when he asked who owned a factory he was visiting, the manager replied that he did not know. The manager pointed out, however, that the nearby druggist, the workers in the factory and other small wage earners had the opportunity to become co-owners because the earnings were divided among a multitude of stockholders throughout the country. Kardelj said that he was favorably impressed by American factories, particularly the big steel center in Pittsburgh.
5. The Communist Party in the United States is outmoded and offers no positive program to the workers, Kardelj said. The Party there has failed to adapt itself to the changing times, and has no real meaning for the working class because it lacks a realistic program calculated on the advanced status of the worker and industry in America. It operates as a tool of the Soviet Union, merely repeating meaningless Marxist quotations and time-worn cliches which are far removed from the actual situation.
6. Kardelj allegedly concluded his report with the statement that the Yugoslav Communist Party could profit immeasurably by studying the evolution of United

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States industry and its effect on the worker. Furthermore, he added, it was the duty of the Party to endeavor to adopt those ideas which could be applied to the worker and Yugoslav industry.

7. After the meeting Boris Kraigher, Edvard Kocbek and Ferdo Kozak reportedly remained together for a short time.* Kocbek is alleged to have remarked that Kardelj's views on Marxism seemed to be in conflict with those of Milovan Djilas which were outlined in the latter's recent "Critique of Soviet Economy". Kozak allegedly maintained that Kardelj's conclusions were in accord with those of Djilas, with which Kraigher concurred.**

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[] Comment: Boris Kraigher is the Minister of the Interior of Slovenia. Edvard Kocbek is Vice President of the Liberation Front (OF) of Slovenia. Ferdo Kozak is President of the Assembly, Republic of Slovenia.

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** [] Comment: It is not known whether these remarks refer to the portions of Kardelj's observations cited in this report or to others not mentioned herein.

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[] Comment: Edvard Kardelj attended the 5th Session of the United Nations General Assembly held in the United States in September 1960, and was reported to have visited Pittsburgh and Cleveland during his stay.

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